Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCUSAFE

EUCOM

UNCLAS ANKARA 6147

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU, CY

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS ON POSSIBILITIES OF CYPRUS

SETTLEMENT

1. PRESS REPORTS AND SPECULATION ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM HAVE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY HERE FOLLOWING THE HELSINKI SUMMIT AND THE AGREEMENTS REACHED IN THE MOST RECENT DENKTASH-CLERIDES TALKS AT VIENNA. THE PRIMARY FOCUS IS ON TURKISH TERRITORIAL CONCESSION IN EXCHANGE FOR GREEK ACCEPTANCE OF A BIZONAL FEDERATION. THE FOLLOWING ARE RECENT STATEMENTS BY PUBLIC FIGURES:

A. TURK-CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH, WHO MET WITH PRIMIN DEMIREL, DEPPRIMINS ERBAKAN AND FEYZIOGLU AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE SECRETARY GENERAL ACKERMAN IN A STOPOVER IN UNCLASSIFIED

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ANKARA EARLIER THIS WEEK, GAVE AN EXCLUSIVE STATEMENT TO

GUNAYDIN (PUBLISHED AUGUST 7) IN WHICH HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF A TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENT GIVING THE TURK-CYPRIOTS 30 PERCENT OF CYPRUS. HOWEVER, HE STATED, IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE GREEK-CYPRIOT POSITION CALLED FOR A 75-25 TERRITORIAL DIVISION.

B. ACKERMAN, WHO WAS IN ANKARA AUGUST 4-6, GAVE AN INTERVIEW TO AN "ANKA" NEWS AGENCY REPORTER IN WHICH HE STATED THAT THE TURK-CYPRIOTS, WHO OWNED 35 PERCENT OF CYPRUS IN 1960, SHOULD USE THAT FIGURE AS AN INITIAL NEGOTIATING POSITION, BUT HE IMPLIED THAT SINCE THEY REPRESENTED ONLY 18 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, THEY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SETTLE FOR LESS.

2. CUMHURIYET (AUGUST 6-7) CARRIED UNATTRIBUTED
REPORTS THAT PRIMIN DEMIREL SAID AT HIS AUGUST 5 POST- HELSINKI
BRIEFING OF PARTY LEADERS THAT THE CONSENSUS OF WORLD LEADERS
AT HELSINKI WAS THAT TURKEY SHOULD SETTLE FOR NO MORE THAN
30 PERCENT OF CYPRUS. THE PAPER REPORTED THAT DEMIREL
SAID THAT GOT WAS PREPARED TO RETURN 7 PERCENT OF CYPRUS
TO GREEK CYPRIOT CONTROL IN EXCHANGE FOR GREEK AND GREEKCYPRIOT AGREEMENTS TO A BIZONAL FEDERATION AND DEMILITARIZATION
OF RHODES AND THE DODECANESE. HOWEVER, THIS AGREEMENT
COULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED PRIOR TO THE LIFTING OF THE US
ARMS EMBARGO. CUMHURIYET ALSO GAVE SUPPOSED DETAILS OF
BOTH THE GREEK AND US POSITIONS.

3. AMONG RECENT EDITORIALS DEALING WITH CYPRUS, OF MOST INTEREST WERE TWO BY MILLIYET EDITOR IPEKCI. HE WROTE ON AUGUST 7 THAT THE GREEKS HAVE AGREED TO ABIZONAL FEDERATION, BUT NO SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE UNTIL THE BOUNDARIES QUESTION IS SETTLED. BECAUSE NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY LEADER (AND DEPPRIMIN) ERBAKAN IS NOT PREPARED TO AGREE TO THESE CONCESSIONS, PRIMIN DEMIREL IS UNABLE TO ACT AND CONSEQUENTLY HAS ADOPTED THE COURSE OF USING BOTH THE ARMS EMBARGO AND POSSIBLE EXPLOITATION OF THE ISSUE BY OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT AS EXCUSES FOR INACTION. THE PREVIOUS DAY, IPEKCI WROTE THAT A RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTES WITHIN THE ANKARA GOVERNMENT REGARDING A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT DEPENDED ON THE PERSUASIVE EFFORTS OF TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH. UNCLASSIFIED

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